



PRESS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 10, 2003**

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84 MONTHS IMPRISONMENT FOR METHAMPHETAMINE SMUGGLER

PHOENIX, ARIZONA –The United States Attorneys Office for the District of Arizona, announced that on July 10, 2003, JOSE ARTURO AYON-VALENZUELA, age 50, of Durango, Mexico, was sentenced to eighty-four months incarceration, by United States District Judge Frank R. Zapata, in Tucson, Arizona.

AYON-VALENZUELA was charged with Possession of Methamphetamine With Intent to Distribute in connection with his arrest on November 22, 2002 at the Grand Avenue Port of Entry in Nogales, Arizona. On that day, a search of the truck he was driving into the United States from Mexico was found to contain over 5 pounds of crystal methamphetamine. AYON entered a plea of guilty to the charge in July, 2003.

The investigation in this case was conducted by Agents from the Bureau of Customs and Immigration Enforcement, Nogales. The prosecution was handled by Carin C. Duryée, Assistant United States Attorney, District of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona.

CASE NUMBER: CR-02-2228-TUC-FRZ
RELEASE NUMBER: 2003-121

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